SESSION 1
GIDEON
VOLUNTEERS WILL NEED
- paper, pencil, hole punch
- black, yellow construction paper
- child-size scissors, glue
- music CD
- beanbag
- bell

SESSION 2
RUTH, BOAZ, AND OBED
VOLUNTEERS WILL NEED
- magazine pictures of people
- large piece of paper, glue sticks
- chenille stems or craft sticks
- allergy alert, crackers
- cups of water, paper towels
- puzzles about families
- play foods/empty containers
- grocery bag

SESSION 3
SAMSON
VOLUNTEERS WILL NEED
- construction paper, tape
- books about helping others
- play dough, rollers
- child-size scissors
- glue

SESSION 4
A COUPLE HELPED ELISHA
VOLUNTEERS WILL NEED
- Teaching Picture 11
- pillowcase, pillow
- small suitcase or backpack
- clothing items
- play food
- toy pots and pans
- large puzzles

SESSION 5
CAIN AND ABEL
VOLUNTEERS WILL NEED
- painting smocks, paper
- watercolors, paintbrushes
- large cotton balls
- brown paper sacks
- plastic interlocking blocks
- newspaper
- tape, markers
- Teaching Picture 12

SESSION 6
PAUL WROTE A LETTER
VOLUNTEERS WILL NEED
- paper, tape
- blocks, beanbag
- crayons
- rubber bands
- large sheet of paper
- music CD
- toy vehicles
- variety of pens
SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

• Restroom Break/Wash Hands
  (5 minutes)

• Enjoy a Snack
  (5 minutes)

• Group Time/Bible Story
  (10–15 minutes)

• Bible Learning Activities
  (35 minutes)

• Clean Up
  (5 minutes)

• Closing Activity
  (10 minutes)

• Dismiss
  (5 minutes)

REMINDERS

► Use a calm, quiet voice.
► Focus attention on the children.
► Review parents’ instructions and medical information for each child.
► Release children to authorized adults only.
► Thank families for bringing their children to church.

UNIT 2
Session 1: January 25
Session 2: February 1
Session 3: February 8
Session 4: February 15
Session 5: February 22
Session 6: March 1
UNIT 2. SESSION 1

Gideon
Judges 6–8

LIFE POINT
God wants people to do what He says.

LIFE VERSE
God made us, and we are His. Psalm 100:3

Room ____________
Your teaching partner(s)
_________________
_________________
Thank you for serving!

DATE OF USE ________

BIBLE FUN ACTIVITIES

SNACK
Include the children in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the preschoolers to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME
Tell each child a specific way to move to group time, such as hopping, walking on tiptoe, and marching.

TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY
Open the Bible to Judges 6 and tell the Bible story.
• A group of people called Midianites was causing trouble for God’s people. God’s people prayed to God and asked Him for help.
• One day Gideon was threshing wheat. (Threshing was done by beating the wheat to release the grains.) An angel appeared and said, “God is with you. Go and save your people from the Midianites.”
• “But I am not powerful or strong. I cannot do this,” Gideon replied. “God will be with you and give you the victory,” the angel told him.
• God told Gideon to gather 300 men. He chose them by how they drank water from a stream. Each man was given a trumpet and a clay pitcher with a torch in it. Late one night Gideon and his men surrounded the Midianites’ camp. When Gideon gave the signal, the men blew trumpets and smashed pitchers. The Midianites began to fight with one another and run away. Gideon and his men followed them and defeated them.
• The people were free from the Midianites. God had helped Gideon defeat them.
SING TOGETHER
Sing the following words to the tune “The Farmer in the Dell”:
- We can learn from God;
- We can learn from God;
- God wants us to do what He says;
- We can learn from God.

SAY THE LIFE VERSE
Print each word of the Life Verse on a separate sheet of paper and tape the words end to end.
Place the long strip of papers on the floor. Open the Bible to Psalm 100:3 and read the verse aloud. Invite the children to take turns stepping out the verse as everyone says the verse together.

PRAY
Pray together, thanking God for teaching us and helping us do what He says.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES
As the children work, emphasize that God wants people to do what He says.

A. Make dark and light pictures. Invite the preschoolers to punch holes or cut small circles and squares from sheets of black construction paper. Help them glue the black sheets to yellow sheets of paper to make dark and light pictures. Mention that it was dark when Gideon and his men surrounded the Midianites. The men carried torches that were covered with clay pots. Note that we learn from the Bible how to do what God says.

B. Play out the Bible story. Organize the children into two groups, Midianites and Israelites. Choose one child to play Gideon and another child to play the angel. Show each group where to gather in the room.
Narrate the story, emphasizing actions for the preschoolers to play out. Comment that God helped Gideon know what to do.

C. Play a story review game. Guide the preschoolers to stand in a circle and toss a beanbag back and forth around the circle while music plays. When the music stops, ask the child with the beanbag a question about the Bible story. If she doesn’t know the answer, she can ask another child to help. Continue in this fashion to review the Bible story.

D. Go on a listening walk. Lead the boys and girls on a quiet walk around the room, church, or outside. Encourage them to walk quietly and listen for different sounds. Jot down sounds you hear as you walk. After walking, invite the children to name or describe sounds they heard. Tell any other sounds on your list that they did not mention. State that Gideon did what God said to do and God used sound and light to help Gideon and his men defeat the Midianites.

CLEAN UP
Walk around the room and assign a cleanup task to each child. Play music, if available, as the children clean. Thank them for their help.

LISTEN AND MOVE
Tell the children to march in place while you clap your hands and stop when you ring a bell. Occasionally, invite the preschoolers to move in different ways such as sway side-to-side, wave hands in the air, or touch their toes. Comment that God wants us to do what He says.

DISMISS
Lead the children to gather all of their personal belongings. Greet each parent. Distribute the Kids Activity Page. Point out the One Conversation™ and explain its use for family Bible study this week.
UNIT 2. SESSION 2

Ruth, Boaz, and Obed

LIFE POINT
Families help each other.

LIFE VERSE
We are helpers. 2 Corinthians 1:24

Room ______________
Your teaching partner(s)
_________________
_________________
Thank you for serving!

DATE OF USE ________

BIBLE FUN ACTIVITIES

SNACK
Include the children in the distribution of the snack. Ask for volunteers to pray. Lead the preschoolers to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME
Mention that today’s story is about family members who helped one another. Touch each child on the shoulder and assign him a family member, such as mom, dad, sister, brother. Call all the “moms” to join you for group time, followed by all the “dads,” “sisters,” and “brothers.”

TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY
Open your Bible to the Book of Ruth; tell the story.
• Ruth married Naomi’s son. Then Naomi’s husband and her sons died. Ruth and Naomi were alone. Naomi decided to move back to Bethlehem, and Ruth chose to go with her.
• Ruth and Naomi needed food. Ruth went into a field and picked up grain the workers left behind. The field belonged to a man named Boaz. Boaz asked a worker who Ruth was.
• The man answered, “That is Ruth. She came to Bethlehem with Naomi. She asked to gather grain. She has worked hard all morning.”
• Boaz told Ruth to stay in his field close to his workers. He shared water and food with her. He knew that Ruth had been kind to Naomi.
• When Ruth returned home, she explained that she had worked in Boaz’s field. Naomi said, “Boaz is my relative. Stay with his workers, and you will be safe.” Ruth worked in Boaz’s fields until the harvest was over.
• Later, Ruth and Boaz were married. They had a baby boy and named him Obed. Ruth, Boaz, Obed, and Naomi were a happy family.
SING TOGETHER
To the tune “God Is So Good” sing:
   My family,
   We care for each other;
   We’re a family.

SAY THE LIFE VERSE
Refer to your Bible and say the Life Verse. Lead the children to close their eyes and think about their families as they say the Life Verse with you two times.

PRAY
Pray, thanking God for families that help each other.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES
As the children complete the activities, emphasize that families help each other.

A. Make a family collage. Before class cut out magazine pictures of men, women, and children. Provide a large piece of paper and glue sticks. Guide the children to choose pictures and glue them to the paper to make a giant family collage. Talk about the Bible story as they work.

B. Make 3-D gifts. Provide chenille stems or craft sticks and glue. Encourage each child to make a gift for a family member. Review the Bible story as the children work.

C. Taste a grain snack. Ask first hour teachers to post the allergy alert. Offer water and crackers as a snack. Explain that crackers are made from grain. Remind the children that in the Bible story Ruth gathered grain in Boaz’s field. State that Ruth helped her family. Boaz helped a family member (Naomi). Note that it pleases God when families help each other.

D. Work family puzzles. Gather puzzles about families. As the children work the puzzles, tell the Bible story. Emphasize that the people in Naomi’s family worked together and we can, too. State that it pleases God when families help each other.

CLEAN UP
Walk around the room and assign a cleanup task to each child. Play music, if available, as the children clean. Thank them for their help.

PLAY A GROCERY GAME
Place a variety of play foods or empty food containers in a paper sack or grocery bag. Set the bag next to a table. Guide the children to stand 10 feet or more from the table. Each, in turn, may run to the table, choose an item from the bag, place it on the table, and run back to the group. When all the groceries have been unloaded, reverse the process. Each child may run to the table and pack an item back into the bag. At a stopping point in the game, mention that families help each other at the grocery story and many other places. Note that it pleases God when family members help each other.

DISMISS
Make sure the children have gathered all of their personal belongings. Greet each parent. Distribute the Kids Activity Page. Point out the One Conversation™ and explain its use for family Bible study this week.
In the beginning of 2 Chronicles 21, King Jehoram was living very well with a lot of gold and silver. However, the Lord told him, “This great abundance shall not serve you for anything; but only because of all this will your sons reign over you, and other people shall take you and your sons captive.”

To the Bible Fun Activities:

**SNACK**
Include the children in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the preschoolers to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

**MOVE TO GROUP TIME**
Ask each child to show his or her muscles while moving to group time.

**TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY**
Open the Bible to Judges 13 and tell the Bible story.

- A group of people called Philistines was causing trouble for God’s people. An angel from God appeared to a woman who had no children. “You will have a son,” the angel said. “He will be special to God. He must never cut his hair. He will save your people from the Philistines.”
- The woman had a son and named him Samson. Samson grew and became strong.
- Later Samson married a woman. Her father became angry with Samson. Then Samson destroyed the wheat fields of the Philistines. Samson’s own people tied his hands to give him to the Philistines. But Samson broke the ropes. He defeated 1,000 of the Philistines by himself.
- Samson met a woman named Delilah. She tricked Samson into telling her the secret of his strength—his long hair. One night when he was sleeping, a man cut Samson’s hair, and Samson lost his strength. The Philistines chained Samson in their temple. Samson asked God to give him strength again. God did; Samson was able to destroy the temple and the Philistines.
**SING TOGETHER**
Sing the following words to the tune “London Bridge”:

- We help others every day,
- Every day, every day;
- We help others every day;
- We are helpers.

**SAY THE LIFE VERSE**
Open the Bible to 2 Corinthians 1:24 and show the preschoolers the Life Verse. Lead them to say the verse together.

**PRAY**
Ask for volunteers who would like to pray. A teacher can pray and ask God for opportunities to help others.

**BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES**
As the children work, emphasize that it pleases God when we help others.

- **A. Make paper chains.** Cut 1-by-4-inch strips from construction paper. Guide the preschoolers to tape both ends of a strip together to make a loop. Insert a second strip through the first loop and tape the ends of that strip together. The children can continue in this fashion to make paper chains. Mention that Samson was chained in the temple and he prayed to God to give him strength. Continue to talk about the Bible story.

- **B. Look at books.** Gather books about helping others. Sit with the children and read some of the books. After reading a few books, tell the Bible story. Emphasize that God wants us to help others.

- **C. Roll and cut play dough.** Provide play dough, rollers, and child-size scissors. Show the preschoolers how to roll play dough into narrow strips and cut off small sections with scissors. Talk about the Bible story as the children work.

- **D. Create people pictures.** Cut a variety of shapes (circles, squares, rectangles, triangles) in different sizes from construction paper. Show the preschoolers how to glue the shapes on a sheet of paper to create people pictures. They can use circles for heads, triangles for dresses, squares for shirts, rectangles for arms and legs, and so forth. Remind the children that Samson grew and became strong. Tell them that God helped Samson so Samson could help others.

**CLEAN UP**
Walk around the room and assign a cleanup task to each child. Play music, if available, as the children clean. Thank them for their help.

**FOLLOW DIRECTIONS AND MOVE**
Give directions for certain children to move to different places in the room. For example, children with brown hair go to the blocks area; children with blue shirts go to the door. Continue in this fashion, keeping the children moving in many different directions around the room. Occasionally ask a certain group to tell something they remember from the Bible story or to say the Life Verse: “We are helpers. 2 Corinthians 1:24.”

**DISMISS**
Make sure the children have gathered all of their personal belongings. Greet each parent. Distribute the Kids Activity Page. Point out the One Conversation™ and explain its use for family Bible study this week.
UNIT 2. SESSION 4

A Couple Helped Elisha
2 Kings 4:8-17

LIFE POINT
God wants people to work together.

LIFE VERSE
We are helpers. 2 Corinthians 1:24

SNACK
Include the children in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the preschoolers to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME
Mention that today’s story is about people who worked together to help someone. Demonstrate for a child how to hold a chair still for a friend as he sits down for group time. Encourage the children to take turns doing this for one another.

TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY
Open the Bible to 2 Kings 4 and tell the Bible story.
• Elisha was a prophet of God. He would travel from town to town telling people what God wanted them to do.
• Elisha often went to a town called Shunem. Elisha ate a meal at the home of a couple who lived in the town. One day the woman said to her husband, “Let’s help this man of God.”
• The woman and her husband built a room on the roof of their house. They put a bed, a table, a chair, and a lamp in the room.
• The next time Elisha came to town, the couple showed him the room. Elisha was very happy with the room.
• “What can I do for you?” he asked the woman. The woman replied that she had everything she needed. But Elisha knew she had no children. “By this time next year, you will have a son,” Elisha told her.
• The next year the woman did have a son, just as Elisha had told her.
SING TOGETHER
Use the tune “Are You Sleeping?” to sing:
I can help; I can help.
It is fun! It is fun!
People work together;
People work together,
Until the work is done,
Until the work is done.

SAY THE LIFE VERSE
Refer to your Bible and say the Life Verse. Lead the
children to say the verse in a loud voice, a whisper
voice, and then just move their mouths but not say
the words aloud.

PRAY
Thank God that the preschoolers are learning to
work together to help others.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES
As the children complete the activities, emphasize
that God expects us to help others.

A. Put on clean pillowcases. Lay the Teaching
Picture near a clean pillow. Suggest a child
put a clean pillowcase on the pillow. As she
works, tell her that the family helped Elisha by
making a room for him. The Bible tells us that
they put a bed in the room for Elisha.

B. Pack a suitcase. Bring a small suitcase or
backpack and a few clothing items for the
children to pack. Talk about Elisha traveling
to different towns to tell people about God.
Suggest that he may have carried items in
a bag. Sing the song about helping in “Sing
Together.”

C. Prepare food. Provide play food and toy pots
and pans. Mention that church families can
help others by preparing food for them. Tell
the children that God wants people to work
together.

D. Work floor puzzles. Suggest that the
preschoolers work in pairs to put large puzzles
together. Thank them for cooperating and
working together. Tell about Elisha’s kind
friends who helped him. Thank God for
families that work together.

CLEAN UP
Walk around the room and assign a cleanup task to
each child. Play music, if available, as the children
clean. Thank them for their help.

PLAY “WHO IS THE HELPER?”
Tell the preschoolers you will give clues about a
child in the room. When they know the child you
are talking about, they should raise their hand and
wait to be called upon. Give a verbal description of
a child, indicating the color and type of the child’s
clothing or telling whom the child is sitting beside.
When a child guesses whom you are describing,
indicate that the child was a helper today. If
possible, name an action the child made that was
helpful to others. Continue the game until you have
described each child and given verbal affirmation
of a way the child was a helper in the room today.
State that it pleases God when people work
together.

DISMISS
Make sure the children have gathered all of
their personal belongings. Greet each parent.
Distribute the Kids Activity Page. Point out the One
Conversation™ and explain its use for family Bible
study this week.
UNIT 2. SESSION 5
Cain and Abel
Genesis 4:1-16
LIFE POINT
Make right choices.
LIFE VERSE
We are helpers. 2 Corinthians 1:24

Room ____________
Your teaching partner(s)
_________________
_________________
Thank you for serving!

DATE OF USE ________

BIBLE FUN ACTIVITIES

SNACK
Include the children in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the preschoolers to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME
State that today’s story is about two brothers. One brother was a farmer. The other brother was a shepherd (took care of sheep). Lead the children to pretend to herd sheep or pull weeds as they travel to group time.

TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY
Open your Bible to Genesis 4 and tell the Bible story.
• Adam and Eve had two sons, Cain and Abel. Cain was a farmer. He worked hard to grow food for his family to eat. Abel worked hard to care for sheep.
• Cain and Abel brought offerings to God. Cain brought some of the crops he had grown and offered them to God. Abel brought the firstborn lambs from the sheep and offered them to God.
• God saw the offerings the men brought. God liked Abel’s offering but did not like Cain’s.
• Cain became angry when he saw that God did not like his offering. Cain was angry with his brother, too. He arranged for Abel to meet him in a field, and he attacked his brother.
• Cain’s wrong choices made God very angry with him. Cain had to leave and go live somewhere else.
SING TOGETHER
Use the tune “I’m a Little Teapot” to sing:

I live in a family; yes, I do!
I live in a family, and so do you.
When I help my family, it makes me glad.
I can help my mom, and I can help my dad.

SAY THE LIFE VERSE
Refer to your Bible and say the Life Verse. Mention that the verse is found in the New Testament part of the Bible. Open your Bible to 2 Corinthians 1:24 and say the Life Verse: “We are helpers.” Lead the children to sit and say We, stand and say are, and sit and say helpers.

PRAY
Ask God to help children make right choices.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES
As the children complete the activities, emphasize that God wants us to make right choices.

A. Paint with watercolors. Cover a child’s clothing with a smock. Invite the child to paint sheep. Comment that Abel raised sheep. Other children may want to paint a field. Note that Cain was a farmer. He grew food for his family to eat.

B. Feel a soft sheep. Place large cotton balls in a brown paper sack. Place a handful of plastic interlocking blocks in another brown paper sack. Suggest a child put his left hand in one sack and his right hand in the other sack. He should not look in either sack. Lead the child to tell you which object feels most like the soft wool of a sheep. Mention that Abel was part of the first family. He took care of the family’s sheep.

C. Make paper bag houses. Offer paper bags, markers, newspaper, and tape. Invite a child to draw windows, doors, and other details on all sides of the paper bag to design a house. Stuff the bag with newspaper, fold the top closed, and tape it to make the house. Say that many families live in houses. Talk about the Bible story.

D. Make faces. Show the Teaching Picture as a reminder of the Bible story. Remind the children that God was happy with Abel’s offering. Lead them to make a happy face. Mention that Cain became angry when God did not like his offering. Lead the children to make an angry face. State that when we make right choices God is happy. Talk about right choices that children can make.

CLEAN UP
Walk around the room and assign a cleanup task to each child. Play music, if available, as the children clean. Thank them for their help.

PLAY A MOVEMENT GAME
Adam, Eve, Cain, and Abel were the first family. Make up scenarios for the children to act out about each family member: Walk through a field like Adam. Pull weeds like Cain. Herd the sheep like Abel. Grind grain like Eve. State that God wants people to make right choices.

DISMISS
Make sure the children have gathered all of their personal belongings. Greet each parent. Distribute the Kids Activity Page. Point out the One Conversation™ and explain its use for family Bible study this week.
UNIT 2. SESSION 6

Paul Wrote a Letter
2 Corinthians 1: 12

LIFE POINT
People tell about God and Jesus.

LIFE VERSE
God made us, and we are His. Psalm 100:3

SNACK
Include the children in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the preschoolers to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME
Lead the children to pretend to write a letter as they walk to group time.

TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY
Open the Bible to 2 Corinthians 1 and tell the story.
- Paul was a missionary. He traveled many places to tell about Jesus.
- One place Paul went was the city of Corinth. A church was there where people worshiped God and learned more about Jesus.
- Paul wrote a letter to his church friends. This is some of what Paul wrote.
- “We should always thank God for His love and care. Because God cares for us, we should care for other people.
- “We should not boast about anything we do but only about what God has done for us. God has made many great things happen to me, but I will not boast about them. In fact, I have been given a painful weakness. I prayed to God three times to remove this weakness. But God replied, ‘My grace is enough for you. I will show strength through your weakness.’ So I always thank God for my weakness.
- “I will always thank God for you. I hope to visit you soon.”
**SING TOGETHER**

Sing these words to the tune “Jesus Loves Me”:

Jesus helps me when I’m weak;
Jesus loves and cares for me;
In my work and in my play,
He is with me every day.
Yes, Jesus loves me. *(Sing 3 times.)*
The Bible tells me so.

**SAY THE LIFE VERSE**

Print the Life Verse on small squares of paper and tape each square to a different block. Open the Bible and read the Life Verse. Show the children the words on the blocks as you put the blocks in the correct order. Touch each block and read the verse. Lead the children to say the verse after you two times.

**PRAY**

Pray, thanking God for people who wrote His words in the Bible to tell people about God and Jesus.

**BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

As the children work, mention that people in the Bible told about God and Jesus.

**A. Enjoy scribble art.** Bundle three or more crayons together with a rubber band. Make sure that the points of the crayons are even. Tape a large sheet of paper to a table or wall and invite the children to use the crayon bundles to draw, print, and scribble on the paper. Mention that Paul wrote a letter to his church friends; talk about the Bible story as the children work.

**B. Play a story review game.** Guide the preschoolers to stand in a circle an arm’s length apart. Play music and invite them to pass a beanbag around the circle. Encourage them to pass the beanbag fast when the music is fast and more slowly when the music is slow. When the music stops, ask the child holding the beanbag one question about the Bible story. Invite other preschoolers to help if the child does not know the answer. Remind them that Paul wrote to his church friends. He reminded them to tell others about what God and Jesus had done for them.

**C. Play with toy vehicles.** Lead the children to place blocks end-to-end to make roads and to push the toy vehicles along the block roads. Mention that Paul was a missionary and traveled to many different places to tell people about Jesus. Comment that God cared for Paul and helped him and that Paul cared for other people.

**D. Use novelty pens.** Offer a variety of pens for the children to use. Guide them to make several marks on a paper with each pen. Tell the Bible story as they work. Emphasize that Paul wrote letters to tell others about God and Jesus. Pre-kindergartners may want to print their names. Help as needed.

**CLEAN UP**

Walk around the room and assign a cleanup task to each child. Play music, if available, as the children clean. Thank them for their help.

**MARCH TO MUSIC**

Locate a music CD. Lead the children to march around the room to the rhythm of the music. Stop the music and ask for a volunteer to tell something she remembers from the Bible story. Continue the game, giving several more children a chance to tell something from the Bible story.

**DISMISS**

Lead the children to gather all of their personal belongings. Greet each parent. Distribute the Kids Activity Page. Point out the One Conversation™.